



State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations
DEPARTMENT OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
255 Westminster Street
Providence, Rhode Island 02903-3400



UNITED STATES SENATE
* YOUTH PROGRAM *
EDUCATION • LEADERSHIP • PUBLIC SERVICE

Deborah A. Gist
Commissioner

To: Students

From: David V. Abbott, Acting Commissioner/General Counsel

Date: September 10, 2012

Re: Announcement of the United States Senate Youth Program

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you back to school and to make you aware of an exciting program for students. The United States Senate Youth Program is an annual competitive event open to juniors and seniors who are community and civic student leaders or who have been elected to an office in student government.

Every state selects two (2) students who will represent their state for a week of special activities in Washington, D.C. These student delegates will interact with many elected officials and other individuals in top government positions. As well as going on a once in a lifetime trip to Washington, DC, each student selected also receives a \$5,000 college scholarship.

The R.I. Department Education will use a three-phase screening process, including a test, an assigned essay, and an interview, to select the two (2) students and (2) alternates who will represent Rhode Island for the 2012-13 school year. Application forms have been sent to every Rhode Island high school. If you would like to apply for this program, please speak to your Principal or School Counselor. **Please see the enclosed USSYP calendar for application process details.**

I wish you all the best as you begin the school year!

Best,

David V. Abbott

Telephone (401) 222-4600 Fax (401) 222-6178 TTY 800-745-5555 Voice 800-745-6575
www.ride.ri.gov

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